



Texas Department of Insurance

Division of Workers' Compensation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 7, 2008
For Immediate Release

FOR MORE INFORMATION
(General) Michelle Banks @ (512) 804-4203
(Media) John Greeley @ (512) 463-6425

Division to Hold Stakeholder Meeting on Pharmacy Closed Formulary

AUSTIN, TX – The Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (TDI-DWC), will hold a stakeholder meeting from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Monday, August 25, 2008 to discuss implementation of a Pharmacy Closed Formulary, rule development and processes, and the appropriate components and criteria for a closed formulary that are consistent with the requirements of Texas Labor Code §§408.028, 413.011, and 413.0111.

The stakeholder meeting will be held in the Tippy Foster Room at the TDI-DWC Central Office, 7551 Metro Center Drive, Suite 100 in Austin (<http://www.tdi.state.tx.us/webinfo/tdidwc.html>). The agenda for this stakeholder meeting is available on the TDI website at <http://www.tdi.state.tx.us/wc/hcprovider/documents/pharmagenda0808.pdf>. TDI-DWC will audio stream the stakeholder meeting for stakeholders who are unable to appear in person.

In March 2008, TDI's Research and Evaluation Group (REG) published a descriptive analysis of the use of pharmaceutical services in the Texas workers' compensation system, focusing on activity in calendar years 2005 and 2006. This was the first study of its kind in Texas, and the analysis showed that pharmacy payments for each year were approximately \$130 million and accounted for 13 to 14 percent of all Texas workers' compensation medical payments. Further details of REG's Pharmaceutical Descriptive Analysis can be found at: http://www.tdi.state.tx.us/reports/wcreg/documents/Pharmaceutical_Prese1.ppt. Further utilization and case findings will be discussed at the stakeholder meeting.

To listen to the audio stream of the stakeholder meeting, access the TDI-DWC Public Outreach Events /Training Calendar on the TDI website at <http://www.tdi.state.tx.us/wc/services/outreachcal/index.html>. Then click on the "Broadcast" link for the stakeholder meeting. The applications Media Player 7 (or newer version) or RealPlayer 10 (or newer version) are required to hear the audio stream. Audio streaming will begin approximately five minutes before the stakeholder meeting begins.

For further information regarding this stakeholder meeting, contact Chris Voegelé via e-mail at: Christopher.Voegelé@tdi.state.tx.us.

###